

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A starting apparatus for an internal combustion engine, which is mounted on an automobile to automatically start the internal combustion engine after an auto stop of the internal combustion engine with fulfillment of the auto stop condition including accelerator off and brake on, when the auto start condition including accelerator on or brake off is fulfilled, said starting apparatus comprising:

a cranking module that is always connected to an output shaft of the internal combustion engine via a power transmission member and cranks the internal combustion engine through actuation of a rotating shaft, which is interlocked with rotation of the output shaft;

a reverse rotation presumption module that presumes reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine based on the measured revolution speed of the internal combustion engine, wherein the reverse rotation is the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine due to the incompletion of a compression cycle immediately before stopping of the internal combustion engine when the internal combustion engine is auto stopped with fulfillment of the auto stop condition; and

a cranking control module that controls said cranking module when the auto start condition is fulfilled when the internal combustion engine is auto stopped with fulfillment of the auto stop condition, the cranking control module controls the cranking module to crank the internal combustion engine when the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine is not presumed by said reverse rotation presumption module, and the cranking control module controls the cranking module to crank the internal combustion engine after the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine becomes not to be presumed by the reverse rotation presumption module when the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine is presumed by the reverse rotation presumption module ~~prohibits cranking of the internal combustion engine regardless of fulfillment of an auto start condition, when said reverse rotation presumption module presumes the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine.~~

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A starting apparatus in accordance with claim [[3]]1, wherein said reverse rotation presumption module presumes the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine until the measured revolution speed of the internal combustion engine falls below a predetermined level and a predetermined time period elapses after the fall to eliminate any potential for the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine.

5. (Previously Presented) A starting apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the power transmission member is either of a full-time jaw gear that couples the output shaft with the rotating shaft or a belt that is spanned between the output shaft and the rotating shaft.

6. (Original) A starting apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein the power transmission member is made of resin.

7. (Currently Amended) An automobile with an internal combustion engine mounted thereon, said automobile comprising:

a cranking module that is always connected to an output shaft of the internal combustion engine via a power transmission member and cranks the internal combustion engine through actuation of a rotating shaft, which is interlocked with rotation of the output shaft;

a reverse rotation presumption module that presumes reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine based on the measured revolution speed of the internal combustion engine, wherein the reverse rotation is the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine due to the incompletion of a compression cycle immediately before stopping of the internal combustion engine when the internal combustion engine is auto stopped with fulfillment of the auto stop condition; and

a cranking control module that controls said cranking module when the auto start condition is fulfilled when the internal combustion engine is auto stopped with fulfillment of the auto stop condition at automatically starting of the internal combustion engine after an auto stop of the internal combustion engine with fulfillment of auto stop condition including accelerator off and brake on, when auto start condition including accelerator on or brake off is fulfilled, the

cranking control module controls the cranking module to crank the internal combustion engine when the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine is not presumed by said reverse rotation presumption module, and the cranking control module controls the cranking module to crank the internal combustion engine after the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine becomes not to be presumed by the reverse rotation presumption module when the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine is presumed by the reverse rotation presumption module prohibits cranking of the internal combustion engine regardless of fulfillment of an auto-start condition, when said reverse rotation presumption module presumes the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine.

8-9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) An automobile in accordance with claim [[9]]7, wherein said reverse rotation presumption module presumes the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine until the measured revolution speed of the internal combustion engine falls below a predetermined level and a predetermined time period elapses after the fall to eliminate any potential for the reverse rotation of the internal combustion engine.

11. (Original) An automobile in accordance with claim 7, wherein the power transmission member is made of resin.